

What Julia Donaldson Books Have You Read?

Year: Early Years

Term: Autumn Term

Project Overview

This term, our project will be inspired by a selection of much-loved Julia Donaldson stories. Through these engaging books, the children will develop their imagination, expand their vocabulary, and foster a lifelong enjoyment of reading. We will introduce and explore key vocabulary from each story and encourage the children to use these new words in their everyday conversations. Within our Continuous Provision, children will have access to a variety of exciting learning opportunities linked to the stories, helping them to deepen their understanding through play and exploration.

Parental Engagement

At Southwold, we value the important role that parents and families play in supporting their child's learning and development. We will be inviting parents, carers, and family members into the unit every other Friday from **9:00am to 9:30am**. This will provide an opportunity to share a book with your child and enjoy learning together. Further details and reminders will be shared via **Class Dojo**.



Reading at home



At Southwold, we recognise the importance of reading at home and the positive impact it has on children's language development, imagination, and future success as readers. Sharing books regularly helps to foster a love of reading and supports children in becoming confident, lifelong readers.

All children will bring home a class library book each week, which will be changed every Monday. We encourage you to enjoy these stories together, talk **about the** pictures, discuss what is happening in the story, and encourage your child to share their ideas and predictions.

Children in Big Acorns will begin bringing home a reading book from our Read Write Inc. (RWI) scheme once they are ready. These books will be carefully matched to the sounds and words your child has been learning in school, helping them to develop confidence and fluency in their reading.



Curriculum Opportunities

Personal, social and emotional – During this term we will be working on helping the children to settle into school. We will work on relationships and the importance of following school rules.

Communication and language – We will continue to enrich children's speaking and listening skills by introducing new vocabulary linked to each story we explore. Children will have regular opportunities to engage in role-play, share books, and listen to stories, helping them build confidence, extend their language, and use new words in meaningful contexts.

Gross motor: In our weekly PE lessons, we will be developing coordination and learning new games that help build confidence in movement. Outdoor play will continue to support children's gross motor development through climbing, running, balancing, and exploring larger spaces. Big Acorns will also enjoy Opal play at lunchtime, giving them rich opportunities for active, imaginative, and collaborative play.

Fine motor: Children will have access to fine motor activities daily. We have a funky fingers activity set up daily which includes threading, tweezers and using play dough.

Literacy – We will have a range of books available for independent reading. Children will be able to access books in all areas of provision. There will also be lots of opportunities for mark-making and writing. We will have a daily phonics lesson.

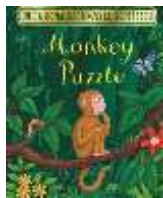
Maths – We will use White Rose Maths to build and deepen children's mathematical understanding. Our learning will focus on matching, sorting and comparing, measures and patterns giving children practical opportunities to explore, reason, and apply their skills in meaningful ways. We will also begin learning about numbers.

Understanding the World – We will be learning about stories from different religions. We will also look at seasonal change. Using the story Monkey Puzzle we will learn about life-cycles.

Expressive arts and design – Children will have the opportunity to use our independent creative area. We will work on self-portraits. We will also practice our accuracy when drawing and painting. We will use a range of musical instruments. We will bring home our Rhyme of the Week.

This term, we will spend two weeks exploring each of our focus stories. During this time, the children will be fully immersed in the book through a range of engaging activities and learning experiences. We will use the stories to develop children's speaking and listening skills, broaden their vocabulary, and support their early writing development.

Our stories



How did the monkey find his mum?



What did the lady do to get more room?



Why did the witch need a new broomstick?



What happened to the giant's clothes?



Where did the Gruffalo go?



How did Stick Man get back home?

Project Outcomes

Throughout the term, children will develop an understanding of the roles of an author and illustrator, exploring how they work together to bring stories to life. They will learn and use a range of vocabulary linked to our focus stories and topics, helping to build their confidence in speaking, listening, and communication.

How Can You Help?

Please check **Class Dojo** regularly, as important information, updates, and upcoming events will be shared there throughout the year. The EYFS team will post a weekly update every Tuesday, giving you an insight into the learning and experiences your child has enjoyed during the week.

We also encourage you to share any learning that takes place at home by adding photos, comments, or observations to your child's portfolio

You can also help with the project by doing the following at home:

- Go to our local library and borrow story books (story or information)
- Send in photographs as we ask for them.
- Read with your child 5 times a week.
- Big Acorns will come home with homework activities for each term. Please help your child to complete them and send photos on Class Dojo.
- Please practice Rhyme of the Week with your child.

If you can support or help in any way, please speak to a member of the team.

